

# SENCO Newsletter

Specialist Teaching &  
Learning Service  
Folkestone and Hythe



## Teaching Assistant Training Directory

Feedback at SENCO forums and from headteachers suggested that there is a need for training for teaching assistants in Folkestone & Hythe.

When the local education support services looked at their current offer (Kent Education Psychology Service, Specialist Teaching and Learning Service, Therapies team, The Education People) we identified there was a range of training already in place suitable for teaching assistants. However, it was often not easy to find or access and so we have collected this information into one single place – the Teaching Assistant Training Resource Directory. We have included a reminder of the guidance on Making Best Use of Teaching Assistants (based on the Education Endowment Foundation report by Peter Blatchford, Jonathan Sharples and Rob Webster), individual CPD plans and mentoring. The local area team hope that you find this useful.

<https://thebeacon.kent.sch.uk/media/sites/4/Teaching-Assistant-Training-Directory-Folkestone-Hythe.pdf>



### Term 4 – LIFT Dates for your Diary

#### Primary / Secondary :

- LIFT Group 1–29 Feb 2024 MS Teams 1pm
- LIFT Group 2–07 Mar 2024 MS Teams 1pm
- LIFT Group 3–04 Mar 2024 MS Teams 9.30am
- LIFT Group 4–11 Mar 2024 The Beacon 8.30am
- LIFT Group 5–14 Mar 2024 MS Teams 1pm
- LIFT Group 6–18 Mar 2024 The Beacon 8.30am
- LIFT Group 7–21 Mar 2024 MS Teams 1pm
- SENCO Forum–19 Mar 2024 The Beacon 8.30am

#### Early Years Settings :

- EYS LIFT 1– 05 Mar 2024 The Beacon 1pm
- EYS LIFT 2– 12 Mar 2024 The Beacon 1pm
- EYS LIFT 3– 19 Mar 2024 MS Teams 1pm
- SENCO Forum– 27 Feb 2024 The Beacon 1pm

### Reminder SENCo Forum — Term 4 Transition Focus 19/03/2024 The Beacon

08.30	<b>Welcome &amp; Refreshments</b>
08.45	<b>'Best Practice for Transition' Mainstream to Specialist:</b> Jackie McFarnell The Beacon Transition Offer
	<b>Primary to Secondary:</b> Real Life Experiences and sharing of positive case studies and 'even better if' – in groups. Transition resources – present and share resources which schools can use to help children become Secondary-ready. Transition Spreadsheet – agree a date
09.45	<b>Transition EYS to Primary:</b> Headteacher event TBC
09.45	<b>Solihull Training for EYS –</b> presented for EPs
10.00	Other Professionals Updates AOB



# Training—Term 4

FOLKESTONE & HYTHE TRAINING 2023 -24

## AET Good Autism Practice

Presented by Morag Hards/Claire Garrett STLS and Maria Vukoja KEPS

Tuesday 27th February 2024

08.30 – 12.30pm The Beacon Folkestone – CT19 5DN

£40 per person

Gain practical knowledge, and discover hands-on tools and techniques to support autistic children in your setting. This module is part of the AET schools' development programme and links to the schools' framework documents. These should be referred to and used as a school and self evaluation tool.

[www.autismeducationtrust.org.uk/framework-documents](http://www.autismeducationtrust.org.uk/framework-documents)

### Who is this training for?

This is a module for practitioners who work directly with autistic children in schools, and it provides guidance on processes and tools that can help practitioners to implement good autism practice.

### What will you learn?

- Develop your knowledge and understanding of good autism practice
- Reflect on and improve your practice in working with autistic pupils
- Understand strategies and approaches you can draw upon for autistic pupils you work with
- Reflect on the kind of information you need to collect for creating a person-centered education plan
- Consider how to involve the autistic pupils and their family in setting learning goals

To book a place, please fill out the official AET booking form below:

<https://forms.office.com/e/g9ctcpbVdW>



Autism  
Education  
Trust

Schools



## STLS CLINIC DATES TERM 4

Contact the lead teacher directly to book a clinic slot...

**SEMH Clinic** — 27th February 2024 — [Andrew.Young@thebeacon.kent.sch.uk](mailto:Andrew.Young@thebeacon.kent.sch.uk) or [Rebecca.Rose@thebeacon.kent.sch.uk](mailto:Rebecca.Rose@thebeacon.kent.sch.uk)

**C&I Clinic** — 12th March 2024 — [Morag.Hards@thebeacon.kent.sch.uk](mailto:Morag.Hards@thebeacon.kent.sch.uk) or [Claire.Garrett@thebeacon.kent.sch.uk](mailto:Claire.Garrett@thebeacon.kent.sch.uk)

**C&L Clinic** — 14th March 2024 — [Julie.Pout@thebeacon.kent.sch.uk](mailto:Julie.Pout@thebeacon.kent.sch.uk)





## Mental Health First Aid – (2 Part)

Presented by Ellie Garrett — [The Beacon](#), Mental Health Lead

**Venue:** The Beacon, Park Farm Road, Folkestone, Kent, CT19 5DN

**Date:** 26<sup>th</sup> Feb & 1<sup>st</sup> March

**Time:** 09.00 – 4.30pm

**Cost:** £75.00 per person



### What is Mental Health First Aid?

Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) is an internationally recognised training course which teaches people how to spot the signs and symptoms of mental ill health and provide help on a first aid basis. MHFA England training won't teach you to be a therapist, but just like physical first aid, it will teach you to listen, reassure and respond, even in a crisis.

Adult MHFA England courses are for everyone aged 16 upwards. Every MHFA England course is delivered by a quality assured Instructor Member who has attended our Instructor Training programme accredited by the Royal Society for Public Health, and is trained to keep people safe and supported while they learn.

### What will I learn?

An awareness and skills course which will teach you to:

- Recognise the main signs and symptoms of common mental health issues
- Provide initial support
- Guide a person towards appropriate professional help
- Be mindful of your own wellbeing
- Develop an understanding of how you can create and maintain a healthier workforce or community.

### What will I take away?

Everyone who completes the course gets:

- ✓ A certificate of attendance to say you are an MHFA Champion
- ✓ A manual to refer to whenever you need it
- ✓ A quick reference card for the Mental Health First Aid action plan
- ✓ A workbook including a helpful toolkit to support your own mental health

**To book a place please contact Gemma Geddes (Beacon Training Coordinator):**  
[Gemma.Geddes@thebeacon.kent.sch.uk](mailto:Gemma.Geddes@thebeacon.kent.sch.uk)

## Useful Websites, Links and Resources –Term 4

### Asthma Training

Asthma is the most common long term medical condition in children and young people. The NHS has training available for all who care for children and young people with asthma to help improve their understanding and awareness of the issue. The e-learning for health website has free online training for all professionals:

<https://www.e-lfh.org.uk/programmes/children-and-young-peoples-asthma/>



## SENCo Networking Group



Term 1: 26<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Term 2: 09<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Term 3: 11<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Term 4: 05<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Term 5: 30<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Term 6: 13<sup>th</sup> June 2024

All sessions 09.30 – 11.30am

Join us for an informal meet, chat and coffee for all SENCos. ★

Chat with some of the STLS team, catch up with colleagues and share any questions, concerns or hints and tips...

No agenda, no need to book, just come along for a coffee and a friendly face!

The Beacon,  
Park Farm Road,  
Folkestone, CT19 5DN

"Very valuable for networking and discussing latest updates..."



### If things don't feel quite right, talk to us

#### Mental health helpline for parents-to-be and parents of new babies

Mental health difficulties can occur during pregnancy and up to two years following birth and can affect women, partners and co-parents.

Mental health difficulties may need support, so if things aren't quite right you can talk confidentially to one of our trained advisors.

Text **KENT** to **85258** for free, or phone **0800 107 1060**

For more information visit

[kent.gov.uk/familyhub/mentalhealthhelpline](https://kent.gov.uk/familyhub/mentalhealthhelpline)



### A guide for parents and carers Supporting your child with ADHD

Young Minds has a support page for parents of children with ADHD. Many of the resources and tips may be useful for professionals within schools and settings...

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-a-z-mental-health-guide/adhd/>

**YOUNGMINDS**  
fighting for young people's mental health



East Kent Hospitals University



NHS Foundation Trust

Occupational Therapy Service



# Sensory Circuits



## Training will cover:

- Sensory difficulties
- Precautions
- Risk assessment
- Aims
- Benefits
- How to do run sessions

**Location:** The Rainbow Centre, Ashford

**Length:** 1 hour training session 9.30-10.30

## Available Dates:

22nd February 2024

21<sup>st</sup> March 2024

23<sup>rd</sup> April 2024

21<sup>st</sup> May 2024

2<sup>nd</sup> July 2024

**Cost:** Free

**Led by Stella Parkinson OT and Sara Cave - STLS**

**To book:** Please contact [sara.cave@goldwyn.kent.sch.uk](mailto:sara.cave@goldwyn.kent.sch.uk) with requested date of attendance.



# How Mainstream Schools Support Primary School Aged Children with SEND

## Training for Families




### Overview

The Education People have been funded by Kent County Council to deliver training to parents and carers of children with SEND from across Kent. Our aims for the training are to:

- build parental confidence in what is on offer to support children and young people with a SEND in mainstream schools
- answer questions that you may have about the offer
- develop your knowledge of how the Mainstream Core Standards are being used in schools to support your children.

This free training will be delivered virtually, via Zoom. If you have any issues with accessing the internet then please do get in touch and we will do our very best to make the training accessible to you.

 [Rory.Abbott@theeducationpeople.org](mailto:Rory.Abbott@theeducationpeople.org)

### How to Register

Choose which date you are able to attend below and either scan the QR code, or click the button underneath it to register.

Tuesday 5  
March 2024  
(10am to midday)

[Book Your Place](#)



Thursday 9  
July 2024  
(10am to midday)

[Book Your Place](#)



On behalf of...

**THE EDUCATION  
PEOPLE**

**Kent  
County  
Council**  
kent.gov.uk



[theeducationpeople.org](http://theeducationpeople.org)

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[Book Your Place](#)



On behalf of...

**THE EDUCATION  
PEOPLE**

**Kent  
County  
Council**  
[kent.gov.uk](http://kent.gov.uk)



[theeducationpeople.org](http://theeducationpeople.org)



# A SENCO's Reading List for SENCOs

The reading list below has been collated from suggestions made by SENCOs at the Countywide SENCO Forum in Jan/Feb 2024. If you find a useful publication that you would like to share with your SENCO colleagues across Kent, then please email your suggestion to [rory.abbott@theeducationpeople.org](mailto:rory.abbott@theeducationpeople.org). The reading list will be updated after termly Countywide SENCO Forums. As the reading list is made up of publications suggested by professionals from outside of The Education People, The Education People cannot take any responsibility for the contents of these publications.

Many thanks, RA February 2024



**Gary Aubin: "The Lone SENDCo"**

**Rob Webster: Inclusion Illusion**

**Assessing the need for Access Arrangements in Examinations: A Practical Guide, Seventh Edition Lia Castiglione**

**The Key, SecED—online resources**

**SEND Network**

**Special Needs Jungle (blog)**

**Life Skills Advocacy Website**

**Linda K Murphy: "Declarative Language Handbook" - for supporting children with demand avoidant behaviours**

**Paul Dix "When the adult changes, everything changes"**

**Nurture UK Information**

**Mainstream Core Standards**

**NASEN SEND Handbook**

**Mary Myatt—SEND Huh**

**Making Best Use of Teaching Assistants by the EEF**

**Anthony Russell, Rob Webster & Peter Blatchford "Maximising the Impact of Teaching Assistants"**

**The Inclusive Classroom**

**Tina Rae Resources**

**Louise Bombier Resources**

**The Zones of Regulation—Leah Kupers**

**The Dyscalculia Assessment— Jane Emerson and Patricia Babbie**

**Daniel Sobel Resources**

**Sylvia Edwards: NASEN The SENCo Survival Guide—useful for new SENCOs**

**The Dyslexia, ADHD & DCD—Friendly Study Skills Guide—Anne Marie Nicholas**

**EEF**